

David King

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 23, 2022 3:40 PM
To: WeWill Chicago
Subject: Non-Survey Thoughts on the We Will Chicago Plan

[Warning: External email]

Dear Developers,

I have read and tried to respond to the plan through the Surveys without success. Using a different browser and information from tech support, I will work on the survey again before the deadline. It appears that the survey is a series of Likert scales regarding the goals of each Pillar; perhaps there is room for further comment at the end of the survey as a whole, but in case there is not, I'd like to provide the following feedback.

- 1.) Congratulations not only undertaking the task, but on completing the Plan in the timeframe you have. It represents mammoth amounts of work and coordination.
- 2.) Speaking of coordination, I hope that the Chicago Plan Commission is able to improve interagency efforts once the Plan is adopted. Looking at the list of subplans at the end of the document, it is clear that coordination is needed.
- 3.) The terminology equity and resiliency seems to me to be spot-on as to what's needed in Chicago at this time.
- 4.) That said, the page 14 definition of Historical Reckoning, *reckoning* being a term that appears several places in the document, is problematic to me. Is a *reckoning* an accounting? I am certain that plan coordinators chose wording very deliberately, but that word has some religious overtones that I don't find appropriate and that could be off-putting. I would like to stress that the "How Did We Get Here?" section and all of the very difficult truths elaborated therein, as hard as they are, is something I know not only from research, but observation. Would "accounting" fulfill the intent of the term?
- 5.) I assume that the Pillars are not in any order of importance.
- 6.) Regarding Pillar 3, I am happy to have seen that the Invest South/West initiative is based on and working to fulfill many of the goals elaborated therein. Good for Mayor Lightfoot and Commissioner Cox for pushing that priority.
- 7.) Also in Pillar 3, Black and Latino business priorities may be different and should not be lumped together.
- 8.) Also in Pillar 3: One of the only mentions that ALL OF US IN CHICAGO should feel a part of one another's neighborhoods in Goal 5. Segregation is the result of all of the historic sins denoted throughout the document, and until we experience one another, we will not be unified.

9.) Try as I might, I can't figure out what "Hardships" are included in the "Hardship Index" denoted in Pillars 4 and 5. There are many, and their effects are different in different areas of concern.

10.) I am glad that access to broadband internet is included in Goal 8. When COVID hit and classes were conducted remotely, I immediately knew from experience working with middle-graders in 20 CPS schools that inequities were about to get worse. I know that internet access is CRITICAL for the adult population as well, especially in the area of Civic Engagement and access to employment.

11.) I find the lack of emphasis on the importance of CPS in the Lifelong Learning Pillar disappointing. Having had the privilege of working in research projects in many underserved schools as well as having been a lifelong middle-grades educator, including the principalship, in a middle-class suburb, I know what more could be done for the youngsters of our city, and I know the good that staff there is doing. I didn't see many educators included in the list of researchers on that Pillar, although I can imagine a couple of reasons which could include that they denoted themselves as volunteers first or that the schools did not wish them to identify specific locations. And--Bring on the arts in CPS as noted in Pillar 1.

I hope to complete the survey as such this coming week, and I hope you will take these comments into consideration as well.

In closing, I long have felt that our city has a measure of everything--some beauty, some money, some crime, some gangs, some depth in the arts, some cutting edge ideas, some corruption, some fabulous weather--etc. etc., and I always have felt that we have what it takes to solve our problems and building on our strengths. All the best with this initiative.

Thank you!

Vicki Mogil
[REDACTED]